# PARK SCHOOL February 27, 2017 E-Newsletter

# 21st Century Learning

## **South Park High School Students Participate in STEM Competition**



Six South Park High School students from Mr. Siniawski's **Engineering Design and Development course recently** competed in the PA Governor's Western Region STEM Competition. Brandon Brewer, Eric Carr, Sam Hartman, Dan Irwin, Bret Leydig and Jake Rattay diligently worked since mid-November to research, design and prototype a 3D scanning device.

The junior- and senior-level capstone course focuses on the Engineering Design Process and promotes problem solving abilities and STEM related skills. For

the competition, the students chose to design and prototype a scanning device which utilizes Raspberry Pi microcomputers and 8-megapixel cameras to quickly and efficiently capture a subject and produce an interactive 3D model of it. The large and otherwise difficult to create 3D models could be utilized for medical evaluations from remote locations, illustrative purposes within a larger interactive setting or for commercial production of scale replicas.

The team researched existing technologies, surveyed instructors and peers for data and utilized online resources to come up with its design constraints and to create a variety of brainstorming ideas. The final design is a six feet tall stationary stand with five mounted cameras. The prototype was designed and parametrically modeled by junior Sam Hartman in Autodesk Inventor. Sam used his previous class experiences in CNC and 3D printing to produce the complex apparatus, custom



hardware cases and intricate mounting brackets. The microcomputers at each camera receive a Python program to instantaneously capture photos. As the subject rotates in front of the device, the photos from the multiple capture angles are sent through secure file transfer protocol to a central file server where they are stored. Junior Eric Carr and senior Jacob Rattay specialized in this programming and file transfer tasks which proved to be the most complex portions of the build.

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## South Park School District

2005 Eagle Ridge Drive • South Park, PA 15129 • (412) 655-3111 sparksd.org | f SouthParkSchools | y @SPSDInfo | @ SouthParkSchoolDistrict

## **Board of Directors Approves Renovation of Eagle Stadium**

At a special meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2017, the South Park School District Board of Directors awarded seven contracts for the renovation of Eagle Stadium. Work on the decades-old home of the South Park Eagles is scheduled to begin this spring.

The awarded contracts include:

- General Construction contract awarded to Yarborough Development, Inc. in the amount of \$4,429,144
- HVAC Construction contract awarded to D&G Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$326,900
- Plumbing Construction contract awarded to Vrabel Plumbing Company, LLC in the amount of \$1,396,200
- Electrical Construction contract awarded to Vern's Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$1,201,868
- Turf Construction contract awarded to Prograss, LLC in the amount of \$762,505
- Track Construction contract awarded to Vasco Asphalt Company in the amount of \$699,084
- Bleacher Construction contract awarded to E&D Specialty Stands, Inc. in the amount of \$847,780

As part of the renovation, a new stadium building will be constructed on the site of a current practice field located closest to Eagle Pride Lane. The stadium building will feature four locker rooms, a trainers' room, coach's offices, a storage room and public restrooms. The current home locker room at the stadium's upper level will be converted into a concession stand and public restrooms. The existing visitor's locker room at the lower level of the stadium will be converted into a storage space for sports teams and the marching band.

The new Eagle Stadium will feature an artificial playing surface, new stands and bleachers, a new press box, a new scoreboard and new stadium lighting. The existing walkway from the parking area at the site of the former South Park High School will be repaved. New steps will be constructed from the parking area down to the area near the current upper concession stand.

The South Park School District has worked with several neighboring districts to secure venues for games this fall. The South Park High School football team is tentatively scheduled to play its 2017 home games at Keystone Oaks, Baldwin, Ringgold and Mt. Lebanon. There is a possibility that Eagle Stadium could host several late-season games in October 2017.

The project is estimated to cost approximately \$10.95 million, which includes more than \$300,000 towards contingency funds. Work on the field, stands, bleachers, lights, press box, scoreboard and concession stand is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2017. The project is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2018.

"After months of discussion and planning, we are excited to move forward with the renovation of Eagle Stadium," said South Park School District Superintendent Wayne Gdovic. "This renovation advances the long-term vision of the South Park School District which included the construction of South Park Elementary Center in 2001, the construction of South Park High School in 2005 and the renovation of South Park Middle School in 2016. The tireless work over the past year by the Board of Directors, administrators, HHSDR Architects and Engineers and P.J. Dick shows the commitment to enhance district facilities for South Park students while remaining fiscally responsible for township taxpayers."



# 21st Century Learning

#### (continued from page 1)

"We found a lot of great resources during our research, but learning all of the necessary protocols and executing the programming commands simultaneously through an SSH interface took us the majority of our allotted project time," said Carr.

The final 3D model is stitched together from this bank of images and then edited to smooth imperfections and correct geometry issues. Seniors Brandon Brewer, Dan Irwin and Bret Leydig managed the capture and software aspects of the final model.

"We've tried various software titles to create the geometric mesh out of the images with varying degrees of success," said Leydig.

Their final design utilizes the Autodesk Remake software and takes approximately 25 minutes to edit a final rendering from the photos.

Even though the students did not place, they gained a lot from the experience.



**Full Scan** 

"It's great to look at our final prototype and know that our entry was superior to all of the others in both build quality and complexity," said Mr. Siniawski. "The students performed well during the presentation portion of the competition, but their concept didn't capture the judge's interest enough to move on to the state level. All-in-all, their comfort level and mastery of the 21st century technologies and content reflects well on our engineering pathway here at South Park, and I was happy with their effort."

## 2017-2018 School Calendar Approved

# 2017-2018 **CALENDAR**

The South Park School District Board of Directors approved the 2017-2018 school year calendar at its regular meeting on Thursday, February 9. The first day of school will be on Monday, August 28.

Open houses will be held in late September. South Park High School's open house will be on Monday, September 25. South Park Middle School's open house will be on Tuesday, September 26. South Park Elementary Center's open house will be on Wednesday, September 27. Students are dismissed two hours early on the day of their

school's open house.

Fall break is scheduled for Thursday, November 23 through Monday, November 27. Winter break is scheduled for Monday, December 25 through Tuesday, January 2. Spring break is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28 through Monday, April 2.

The last day of school is scheduled to be Thursday, June 7.

The entire 2017-2018 calendar can be found on the next page.

Students: 20 Days

**Students: 19 Days** 



#### SOUTH PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT 2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2017								
М	Т	W	Н	F	22 23			
	1	2	3	4	24			
7	8	9	10	11	25			
14	15	16	17	18	28			
21	22	23	24	25				
28	29	30	31		Tea			

**New Teacher Orientation New Teacher Orientation Teacher Preparation Day** In-Service/Clerical Day First Day of School

FEBRUARY 2018							
М	Т	W	Н	F	19		
			1	2			
5	6	7	8	9			
12	13	14	15	16			
19	20	21	22	23			
26	27	28			Tea		

No School (Act 80 Day/ Presidents' Day)

Teachers: 6 Days **Students: 4 Days Teachers: 20 Days** 

	SEPTEMBER 2017						
4 No Schoo	F	Н	W	Т	М		
25 High Scho	1						
26 Middle So	8	7	6	5	4		
(MS Student	15	14	13	12	11		
(EC Student	22	21	20	19	18		
Teachers: 20 Days	29	28	27	26	25		

No School (Labor Day) **High School Open House** (HS Students Dismissed Two Hours Early) **Middle School Open House** (MS Students Dismissed Two Hours Early) **Elementary Center Open House** (EC Students Dismissed Two Hours Early)

	<b>MARCH 2018</b>						
abor Day) Open House	M	Т	W	Н	F	27	End of Thi One-Hour
smissed Two Hours Early)				1	2	28	No Schoo
ol Open House	5	6	7	8	9		(In-Servic
smissed Two Hours Early) Center Open House	12	13	14	15	16	29-30	No Schoo
smissed Two Hours Early)	19	20	21	22	23		
Students: 20 Days	26	27 <sub>Q</sub>	28	29	30	Teache	rs: 20 Days

**End of Third Quarter One-Hour Early Dismissal** No School (In-Service/Clerical Day) No School (Spring Break)

**OCTOBER 2017** 13 W Н F М 31

**No School** (Professional Development Day) **End of the First Quarter** 

APRIL 2018									
М	T	W	Н	F					
2	3	4	5	6					
9	10	11	12	13					
16	17	18	19	20					
23	24	25	26	27					

2

No School (Spring Break)

2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31 <sub>Q</sub>			

**Teachers: 22 Days Students: 21 Days** 

AI ML 2010								
М	T	W	Н	F				
2	3	4	5	6				
9	10	11	12	13				
16	17	18	19	20				
23	24	25	26	27				
30								

**Teachers: 20 Days** Students: 20 Days

	7	₹201	MBEF	OVE	N
1	F	Н	W	Т	М
7	3	2	1		
10	10	9	8	7	6
22 23-27	17	16	15	14	13
	24	23	22	21	20
Teach		30	29	28	27

No School (In-Service/Clerical Day) No School (Act 80 Day) No School (Veterans Day) **One-Hour Early Dismissal** No School (Fall Break)

ı	WIAY 2018						
ĺ	M	Т	W	Н	F	11 15	
		1	2	3	4	'	
	7	8	9	10	11	28	
	14	15	16	17	18		
	21	22	23	24	25		
	28	29	30	31		Tea	

AV 2010

No School (Professional Development Day) No School (Memorial Day)

Teachers: 18 Days **Students: 17 Days** 

24	25		
31		Teachers: 22 Days	Students: 21 Days
		•	

**Prom 2018** 

DECEMBER 2017								
М	T	W	Н	F				
				1				
4	5	6	7	8				
11	12	13	14	15				
18	19	20	21	22				
25	26	27	28	29				

**One-Hour Early Dismissal** 25-29 No School (Winter Break)

	JUNE 2018						
rly Dismissal Vinter Break)	М	Т	W	Н	F	4	
viliter break)					1	7	
	4	5	6	7 <sub>Q</sub>	8	] _	
	11	12	13	14	15	8	
	18	19	20	21	22		
Students: 16 Days	25	26	27	28	29	Įτ	

First Day of School

**No School** 

o End of Quarter

No School (Kennywood Picnic/ Professional Development Day) **Last Day of School** (Early Dismissal) In-Service/Clerical Day

**Teachers: 16 Days** 

Too shows 6 Dove	Ctudentes 4 Davis
Teachers: 6 Days	Students: 4 Days

		JANUARY 2018						
1-2 No Schoo	F	Н	W	Т	М			
Martin Lu	15	5	4	3	2	1		
18 End of Se 19 No Schoo (In-Service		12	11	10	9	8		
	19	18 <sub>Q</sub>	17	16	15			
•		26	25	24	23	22		
ers: 21 Days	Teache			31	30	29		
In accordance with Denneylyania								

No School (Winter Break) No School (Act 80 Day/ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) **End of Second Quarter No School** (In-Service/Clerical Day)

**Total Days** Teachers: 191 Days Students: 182 Days

**Last Day of School** 

Make-Up Days 1/2, 1/15, 2/19, & 3/28 **Last Day of School Early Dismissal Times** SPHS: 11:00 a.m. SPMS: 11:30 a.m. SPEC: 12:00 noon **Graduation 2018** 6/8 or 6/15

**Possible Snow** 

**Students: 20 Days** 

# SPHS Drama Club Presents *Little Shop of Horrors*

The South Park High School Drama Club presents two weekends of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Performances are scheduled for:

Friday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 2 at 2 p.m.

Friday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors, students with ID and children. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Make plans to support South Park students!

#### **South Park Middle School Book Fair**

The South Park Middle School PTO along with Mrs. Ruscitto will be hosting the Spring Book Fair and celebrating Read Across America from March 2 through March 10. You can shop the South Park Middle School Book Fair online now through March 14 by clicking here.

#### **Braille Club Started at Middle School**



The first meeting of the South Park Middle School Braille Club was on Thursday, February 16. Students had a lot of fun learning Braille

and playing games using Braille.

### **Kindergarten Registration Continues**

The 2017-2018 Kindergarten Registration for South Park Elementary Center has begun. Registration packets will be available to pick up at South Park Elementary Center until March 31 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Before picking up a packet, please visit the Kindergarten registration site by clicking here and complete the pre-registration form.

# High School Students Selected for District Band Festival

South Park High School junior Alyson Reiter and senior Chloe Sucevic were selected for the PMEA District 1 West Senior High Band Festival. The festival took place February 8 through February



10 at Mt. Lebanon High School, under the direction of guest conductor, Dr. Robert C. Cameron. Both Alyson and Chloe were in the Flute II section, with Chloe placing third chair and Alyson placing fifth chair after auditions. The festival concluded with a Friday evening concert. Congratulations, Alyson and Chloe!

### **Special Meeting Canceled**

The Board of Directors Special Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 28 has been canceled. The next meeting will be on March 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

### **Top of the Shop**

Morgan Pahler, Jonathan Bastianini, Kaitlyn Weiss, Matthew Blackburn and Tyrese Marenholtz recently received the Top of the Shop Award from Steel Center for Career and Technical Education.

# Third Graders Learn About Weather from WPXI-TV Chief Meteorologist Stephen Cropper



Chief Meteorologist Stephen Cropper from WPXI-TV visited South Park Elementary Center on Tuesday, February 21 to teach students about various weather topics. Third graders are currently learning about weather in science class.

Cropper talked about the science behind snowstorms, thunderstorms, tornadoes and flooding. His presentation also included photos of severe weather events in western Pennsylvania, including the tornado on Mt. Washington in 1998 and the flash flooding on Washington Boulevard in

2011. Cropper was able to use his experience forecasting those storms to help students better understand them.

Students were also introduced to several helpful weather phrases. "Know Before You Go" reminds students to always check the weather before going to any outdoor activity. "Turn Around, Don't Drown" is a reminder Cropper urged students to give to their parents about the dangers of driving during flash flooding.

Cropper also explained why recent winter weather has been much more spring-like.

Students were eager to ask Cropper questions on many weather topics. The lessons they learned during the one-hour presentation are sure to help them during their weather unit in science class.

# **Interact Club Members Prepare Meal for Those in Need**





The South Park Lady Eagles play in the WPIAL semifinals against Blackhawk tonight at 6:15 p.m. at North Allegheny.

Dallas Bulsak finished as the runner-up at the WPIAL Wresting Tournament. Dallas and Bret Leydig both advanced to the PIAA Southwest Regional Tournament last weekend. Dallas placed third and qualified for the State Tournament.

Carissa Forsha and Alexis Hutton represented South Park at the WPIAL Diving Championship on Friday, February 24.

Members of the South Park High School Interact Club stayed after school on Wednesday, February 23 to make lasagna, breadsticks, salad and dessert for those in need. The next day, students served the food at "The Table" community meal on Pittsburgh's South Side.

Sean Recktenwald was recently named the Sports Town South Featured Athlete. Sean is the goaltender for the South Park hockey team.

## South Park High School **Students of the Month**

Congratulations to the following students for being chosen by the School Wide Positive Behavior Team at South Park High School as Students of the Month.

**Academics: Taylor Mikelonis** Athletics: Dallas Bulsak Creativity: Evangeline Robertshaw Politeness: Cally Fleming School Spirit: Mikayla Ridgeway Leadership: Elisa DeRose

### Assemblies at South Park Middle School and High School Encourage Students to Make the Right Decisions



Assemblies were held at South Park Middle School and High School on Friday, February 24. Both assemblies stressed the importance of making good choices and making positive

differences in and out of school.

### **Happening in the Classroom**



Sixth grade students in Mr. Anderson's science class recently dissected fish.

### **Fourth Grade Students Get Glimpse of Life in Bhutan**



Students in Ms. Kolodziek's class got a special visit on Thursday, February 16. Ken Morris, a South Park resident who teaches in

Bhutan, spoke to the students about his experience there. Mr. Morris is the fourth grade students' pen pal. Mr. Morris had plenty of stories and pictures to share with the students.

### **Josh and Gab Come to Elementary Center** with Important Message

Students at South Park **Elementary Center were** clapping their hands and stomping their feet during an assembly by Pittsburgh-based performers Josh and Gab. The performance's



anti-bullying message helped students to learn how to become better friends. Josh and Gab have performed at more than 500 schools, camps and community venues in eight states.

#### **Ballet Performance**



On Friday, February 10, students from South Park High School attended a matinee performance of Alice in Wonderland at the Benedum Center.

### South Park School District Strengthening minds. Powering futures.

The South Park School District's mission is to provide an educational atmosphere where all students have opportunities to